IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the application of: Markus Pompejus et al.

Group Art Unit: 1652

Serial No.: 09/602,740

Examiner: K. Kerr

Filed: June 23, 2000

For: "Polynucleotides Encoding A 6-

Phosphogluconolactonase Polypeptide From Corynebacterium glutamicum" (as amended)

Attorney Docket No.: BGI-126CP

Mail Stop AF Commissioner for Patents Post Office box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

CERTIFICATION UNDER 37 CFR 1.10

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service as Express Mail Receipt No. EV 355 388 322 US in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop AF, Commissioner for Patents, Post Office Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the date shown below.

February 17, 2004

Date of Signature and of Mail Deposit

By-

Lisa M. DiRocco

Registration No. 51,619
Attorney for Applicants

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE

Dear Sir:

This is a response to the Office Action mailed from the Patent Office on January 14, 2003. A Notice of Appeal was filed on July 14, 2003. In lieu of an Appeal Brief, the instant Amendment and Response is being filed. A petition for the appropriate extension to time to respond is included herewith.

Mar-18-04 17:16

From-LAHIVE & COCKFIELD, LLP

6177424214

T-521 P.08/20 F-909

USSN: 09/602,740

-2-

Group Art Unit: 1652

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 3 of this paper and include a Replacement Sheet of Page 1 of Table 1 and a "Marked-up Version" of Page 1 of Table 1

Amendments to the Claims begin on page 4 of this paper

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 7 of this paper